

JACKPILE-PAGUATE URANIUM MINE, NEW MEXICO

QUESTION: What is EPA doing to address legacy uranium impacts on the Laguna Pueblo from the Jackpile-Paguate Uranium Mine?

ANSWER:

- EPA is using Superfund removal authorities to sample residential properties and associated structures on the Pueblo to evaluate the risk to tribal members from residual mine wastes.
- A site evaluation of the Jackpile-Paguate Mine is being conducted by EPA through the Superfund Site Assessment process to determine if it is eligible for placement on the National Priorities List.
- EPA is coordinating with the Laguna Pueblo, Bureau of Indian Affairs and Bureau of Land Management for these assessments.

BACKGROUND

- Governor of Laguna Pueblo requested Jackpile-Paguate Uranium Mine be placed on the National Priorities List.
- Formal Consultation was held with the Laguna Pueblo Governor and Council on October 13, 2009. EPA plane was utilized to perform screening of radiation levels on Laguna Pueblo.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was negotiated with Laguna Pueblo and signed on June 22, 2010.
- A Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection was completed in 2010, approximate cost \$120,000.
- Additional sampling activities under an Expanded Site Inspection will be conducted in early spring of 2011 with a projected cost of \$150,000.
- Residential removal assessments in the six villages on the Laguna Pueblo are scheduled to be completed by spring 2011, approximate cost of \$2,300,000. Appropriate residential radiological risk abatement activities will be undertaken beginning in summer 2011, after completion and review of the removal assessment data.

- Congressional interest on the impacts from legacy uranium mining throughout New Mexico includes meetings in 2010 with the New Mexico Legislative Uranium Subcommittee.

RESOURCES

(Dollars in Millions):

Approp.	FY 2010 Obligations		FY 2011 Annualized CR		FY 2012 Pres Bud	
	\$	FTE	\$	FTE	\$	FTE
EPM						
S&T						
SF	\$2.22M	3.0	\$1.65M	4.0	\$1.8M	4.0
Total	\$2.22M	3.0	\$1.65M	4.0	\$1.8M	4.0